

GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

KEEPING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES SAFE



As a former prosecutor, public safety is a core issue for Governor Whitmer. She has worked closely with local leaders and law enforcement officers and organizations to bring down crime and ensure people feel safe whether they're going to work, picking up their kids from school, or grabbing groceries.

INVESTING TO KEEP COMMUNITIES SAFE

- In 2021, the Governor proposed [MI Safe Communities](#), a \$75 million framework that would utilize federal funding from the American Rescue Plan to reduce crime and keep families safe by tackling the court backlog, expanding resources available to law enforcement, and uplifting communities by making investments in jobs programs, counseling, and education.
- Since taking office, the governor has [signed budget bills](#) delivering \$1.4 billion to local governments to help them fund local police, fire departments, and emergency medical services. Her budgets also have included increased funding for highway road patrols and 911 upgrades.
- The governor also has provided [millions](#) for the training and hiring of hundreds of new state police officers and troopers, a new MSP trooper recruit school, increased mental health support services for first responders and public safety staff, and supported local efforts to expand recruitment, improve training, and provide professional development to first responders.
- Since March 2020, she delivered [\\$40 million in COVID hazard pay](#) for local officers and first-responders and over [\\$10 million premium pay](#) for MSP troopers.
- Leveraged [grant funding](#) from the Department of Justice Grant for Community Policing Development and De-Escalation training grant to award [over \\$1 million](#) to local agencies across the state, ensuring local law enforcement have the tools they need to keep communities safe.
- In 2021, the state [opened a new Michigan State Police facility in Grand Rapids](#), bringing together three facilities in the area to drive down costs and increase collaboration.



"Every Michigander, no matter where they live or who they are, deserves to live safely. As a former prosecutor, I am committed to protecting public safety and reducing crime so we can build strong, vibrant communities together. I will work with anyone to bring down crime and help Michiganders feel safe in their community. Together, we can build a safer, more just Michigan where every family can thrive, where every kid can get a great education, and where every person has a path to a good-paying, high-skill job."

- Governor Gretchen Whitmer

SUPPORTING POLICE AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- Developed a [four-pillar plan to strengthen police-community relations](#) in partnership with community leaders and law enforcement organizations.
 - Improve police standards and training to reduce police violence,
 - Build a more emphatic and diverse police force to establish a foundation for future recruiting and hiring efforts,
 - Increase trust between police officers and the communities they serve, and
 - Prevent improper use of force by holding officers accountable, remove barriers that impede officer accountability, and make data available to the public.
- Created the [Bridges to BLUE – Build Listen Unite Engage](#) – a citizen advisory council to the Michigan State Police (MSP) leadership. The council improves community engagement by providing MSP an outside perspective into their practices and public perception.
- Called on [Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards](#) to provide guidance to law enforcement agencies on continuing education to help officers keep up with the ever-changing landscape of new laws and issues facing the communities they protect.
- Established [community service trooper positions](#) to institute a community policing concept statewide.